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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/908,599	08/08/1997	AKIHIKO TAKABATAKE	394-1969A	9680
20277 7590 09/30/2008 MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP 600 13TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096			EXAMINER LEE, Y YOUNG	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/30/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/908,599

Applicant(s)

TAKABATAKE ET AL.

Examiner

Young Lee

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 18-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4-7, 11-13, 15, 18-20 and 24-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 8-10, 21-23, 27 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/3508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The petition filed 6/19/02 has been treated as a request for reconsideration. A review of the file finds that the examiner improperly withdrew previously examined claims. Accordingly, a corrected Office action is hereby provided.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 4-7, 11-13, 15, 18-20, and 24-26 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected embodiment, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 5.

3. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Priority

4. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claims 1-3, 8-10, 21-23, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Auld (5,398,072) in view of Takabatake et al (DRAM Interface for MPEG2 Video Decoder LSI).

Applicant asserts in the petition filed 6/19/02 that claims 1-3 are directed to the same invention as that of the elected invention in claims 8-10. Therefore, claim 8 will be considered as the representative claim of the elected invention.

Auld, in Figures 2-6, explicitly discloses a channel buffer in video decoders that is the same picture decoding and display unit for decoding predictively encoded pixel data (I,P,B) of a picture included in an incoming bit stream 21 as specified in claims 1-3, 8-10, 21-23, 27, and 28 of the present invention, for restoring original pixel data 22 and outputting the restored original pixel data 22 for display on a display unit 34, the picture formed by a frame of a plurality of fields (Fig. 5), the picture decoding and display unit comprising decoding means 28 coupled to receive the bit stream 21, for carrying out the decoding processing on the predictively encoded pixel data (I,P,B) to restore the original pixel data 22; storage means 24 coupled to the decoding means 28, for storing the

restored pixel data 22 received from the decoding means 28; read means 32 coupled to the storage means 24, for reading pixel data from the storage means 24 for outputting the display unit 34 for display thereon; and control means 36 coupled to the read means 32 and the decoding means 28 for making the decoding means 28 start decoding processing of pixel data of a subsequent frame (e.g. P3 in Fig. 5) supplied subsequently to a certain frame (e.g. P1 in Fig. 5) including a last field (P1,F2) to be finally displayed in the certain frame P1 in response to reading of the last field (e.g. FIELD 2) from the read means 32, the subsequent frame P3 supplied immediately following a picture P2 having the decoding processing thereon completed upon the reading of the last field, the picture P2 being different from a picture comprised of the certain frame P1.

With respect to claims 1-3, 9, 10, 21-23, 27, and 28 the decoding processing of Auld is carried out in units of blocks of the pixel data of prescribed sizes on a screen, the picture including M blocks in a horizontal direction on the screen (col. 3, lines 17-35 and col. 5, lines 28-39), the control means 36 further including delay means (e.g. Vbv Delay) for delaying the timing for starting the decoding processing of the decoding means 28 by a time required for reading the pixel data of the M blocks from the storage means 24; the delay means (Vbv Delay) includes buffer memory means 50 arranged between a pixel data output part of the storage means 24 and an output port of the read means 32 coupled to the display unit 34, for storing the pixel data received from the storage means 24 for a prescribed time.

Although Auld discloses the common picture types according the MPEG standard, it is noted Auld differs from the present invention in that it fails to particularly disclose processing of a B picture as specified in claims 1-3, 8-10, 21-23, 27, and 28. Takabatake et al however, in

Figure 1, illustrates the concept of such well known decoding processing of B pictures and that for outputting the restored pixel data of the B pictures to the display unit is substantially one field time (e.g. odd and even field) required for outputting one field pixel data of the B picture to the display unit.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, having both the references of Auld and Takabatake et al before him/her, to incorporate the well known B pictures decoding processing as taught by Takabatake et al in the picture decoding and display unit of Auld in order to restore original pixel data for not only I and P pictures, but also B pictures for outputting to a display unit for display thereon.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 8-10, 21-23, 27, and 28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Y. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7334. The examiner can normally be reached on (571) 272-7334.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Y. Lee/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621

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